



## Boston Recorder.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1842.

### DEMANDS OF UNITARIANS UPON THE ORTHODOX.

In our article last week under the above head, in reply to the Christian Register's remarks, we stated explicitly that Unitarianism is not Christianity in the orthodox sense of the word, and gives some reasons why we could not recognize it as such. We will add that to do so would be a virtual abandonment of our faith—a rejection of doctrines which orthodox believers have ever regarded as fundamental. If our Unitarian friends should say that they do not ask us to deny our own faith, but only to acknowledge the truth and sufficiency of theirs, we answer that these are really one and the same thing. To acknowledge that as in every important sense Christianity which has not in it certain specified doctrines, is a rejection of those doctrines. If it should be said that certain parts of a machine might be taken out, and the machine operate with exertions and bring out the true result, we should understand that those parts were useless. And in like manner do we pronounce those doctrines useless, which we say may be omitted from the Christian system without endangering or blinding the grand results for which that system was intended in respect to human salvation. In just this way the Register would have us treat those doctrines which are distinctively orthodox. He presents us with Unitarianism and asks us to own it as a religion sufficient for man,—complete in its adaptation to his spiritual wants. But before endorsing thus the religion that is offered us, we stop to ask what it is; and we find it is no recognition of man's entire sinfulness by nature, of the consequent necessity of his being regenerated by the Holy Spirit, of the proper divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ, of an acknowledgment for sin by death, and of a future state of rewards and punishments. We find in it a positive denial of every one of those doctrines. And yet we are greatly asked to subscribe to that religion as scriptural and complete,—precisely fitted without those doctrines to man's moral condition and wants. It is indirectly but unequivocally demanding of the Orthodox to deny the doctrines just named,—to cast them out as useless, if not pernicious,—in short to repudiate Orthodoxy and adopt Unitarianism in its stead. We think there is no misrepresentation in these statements, and no evasion of the point at issue. And we regard the manner in which Unitarians are constantly urging their claims and complaints, as an assumption of the right on their part, to interpret Scripture for us, as an attempt to dictate to us our belief, and to set up their own "form of faith" over ours. If this is not "sectarianism," we know of nothing that answers to the word, and to such sectarianism we might justly apply the epithets of "human usurpation," and "petty dogmatism," which the Register has furnished to our hands.

But not only do Unitarians wish us to subordinate their faith for ours; they object to our expressing our belief in a formula or creed which they cannot sign, and which excludes them from our communion. Our Unitarian friends can speak of almost any thing more patiently than of orthodox creeds, and can tell us where they have discerned their heresy. Thus, the Register complains of the "non-existence in our reformed (orthodox) churches of the apostolic rule," and in the next line adds,—"Our reason has taught on that creeds, which bar the avenues to the table of our Lord and to the pulpit, do not convey our doctrine of Christianity." And again, "When he (the Unitarian) would confess his Master before men, he is told that it is quite out of the question; the protestant teacher extends a creed which he cannot sign." And further on he says to his brethren who are scattered abroad,—"Let us raise a voice in every parish meeting against creeds and unscriptural tests." The objections commonly urged against creeds are these two, viz: that they cut off access to the Bible and prevent independent inquiry; and that they bar Unitarians from orthodox churches. The former of these objections we will not now notice. The latter, though aimed apparently at our creeds, really lies against the orthodox faith. We believe the thing that annoys our Unitarian friends is not that we hold those doctrines—doctrines which, though they had never been expressed in a creed, would still oblige us to admit Unitarianism, and make our church enclosures just as narrow as they are now. It is against our having these enclosures *at all* that the objection lies. If we would freely admit Unitarians to our communion, at least one of their objections to creeds would be removed. It comes then to this—it is just a cause of complaint with Unitarians that we interpret Scripture for ourselves,—that in the use of "our own understandings," we arrive at conclusions different from theirs—as different that to maintain our doctrines is itself to pronounce Unitarianism "another Gospel?" If this is what gives offence, let it be so understood, and let this be the point of attack. Or if this is not pretended, then it is quite well to decline against our having a creed, since our written formulas are merely the product of our faith, and do not themselves make nor modify our doctrines, nor change in the slightest manner our conditions of church fellowship.

In what we have said of Unitarianism as not Christianity, we have detracted nothing from the merit of Unitarians in the common concerns and relations of life; we have said nothing of individual character, nor intimated that none whose church relations are with that denomination can be saved. In these matters we are not without charity. But whatever we may think of the common virtues and the piety even of individuals, our charity cannot be made to hide the nakedness of Unitarianism as a system, nor does it require us to extend the hand of fellowship to that system, by taking its supporters into our communion.

If our doctrines were those of the liberal system, we should indeed be at a loss for a justification of creeds, or of any restrictions upon the freedom of church communion. If man is not entirely depraved; if naturally and always, he has some moral goodness; if in his worst estate a measure of love to God may be found in his heart; and if, as a consequence of his natural goodness, he needs no radical change of heart, and no expiatory sacrifice for his sins by a divine Redeemer;—if without these he is in the way to heaven and destined to reach the mansions, though in some cases it may be through a period of disciplinary suffering, short perhaps, as any mortal momentary compared with the eternity beyond,—if all this be true, we see no good reasons for having a restrictive system

of church fellowship, or for imposing conditions few and far between, largely party. The mass of communion open any. We think it perfectly consistent for Unitarians, believing as they do, to oppose creeds and tests of every kind, and to extend as all—an indiscriminate charity and Wellesley.

But do even our liberal friends do this? By no means. They set bounds to their charity and their church, prescribe terms of communion, and admit to "Christian privileges" only those whose faith comes up to a given point. Unitarians regard themselves as a *sect* in religion, a distinct party, holding tenets of their own; and none are more fond than they of using the terms "our faith," "our distinctive faith," "our doctrine of Christianity." The Register in its epic language throws down its crest upon the pale of Christianity. "The *deist* and the *christian* cannot meet upon the same platform." Why not? There may be deists in this very community, whose characters are above reproach, being sober and discreet, just in their dealings, kind as neighbors, and affectionate in their families. Why should they from the Christian platform? Simply because of their belief. A *test* is in their way—a *creed*. It may not be written; it may not be formally presented for their signature. The effect would not be different if it were. It is not putting the doctrines of a *sect* upon paper that "bars the avenue to the church and to the pulpit." It is firmly holding those doctrines and giving publicity to the fact. They may be as foul in sermons, or pamphlets, or papers, or concise articles; it is all the same. In one case as much as in the other, those doctrines meet the unbeliever at the threshold of the church, and bar him out.

True it is, that liberal Christians, so called, profess to exclude only those who discard Christianity. They suppose that they urge only such a test as is most obviously just and necessary, and the propriety of which cannot be questioned. Hence the declaration of the Register.—"To say 'that we cannot take deists and every body as Christians, and as deists as *as* any can be, that Christianity should be seen as distinct from deism.' Unitarians have certainly a right to run the dividing line where they please; and they have the right of judgment as to what is necessary to constitute true Christian character. We have the same right, and we have always supposed the grand, distinguishing characteristic of the Christian to be, right affection towards God,—affection not necessarily in the highest degree of strength and purity, but existing in some degree. This *deist* has if Unitarianism be true, and therefore we say that consistency requires of Unitarians to have no test or creed which shall be the *deist* from their communion. But they think otherwise. Man's native goodness just here is nothing, and belief in Christianity is every thing. No matter if it be a merely historical belief; no matter how earthly and selfish it leaves the heart. These are not points of inquiry. 'Do you believe in Christianity?' is the *trial* question—the creed, and absent or dissent opens or sluts the door of the church.

With Orthodox believers, such a trial of character is good for nothing, not because the declaration of belief in Christianity is necessarily unmeaning, but because we know how little our Unitarian friends usually do *by* it. We join them in pronouncing revealed religion from heaven, but the way in which they direct and rebuke Christians who repel us, and we cannot recognize the original features, the "lineaments divine," in the cold form that is left after the liberal interpretation has done its work. We will not quarrel with Unitarians for applying to these "remainders" the name of Christianity, but they shall never force those remainders upon under that name. We find there no Savior, no sanctifying Spirit, no overpowering motives to repentance, nothing like the influences which fallen men need to bring him to God. We believe that Unitarianism and Deism are not so wide apart, as the Orthodox and the Unitarian systems; and if our liberal friends feel justified in barring the deist from their communion, we plead a still clearer justification in excluding them. We do not forget that in doing this we may exclude some who are really Christ's disciples, for in the general breaking up of congregations which has taken place, some such, through the force of early habits and strong family ties and relationships, may have retained their place in the old meeting-house. But we cannot discriminate in favor of such, and they can have no just claim upon us, except by renouncing their present connection.

If we are still thought to be unnecessarily scrupulous, and even bigoted and intolerant, we can hear the imputation, as a much lighter evil than the consciousness of betraying the truth; and with the Register we "say distinctly, emphatically, yet kindly, that while we have no wish to divide congregations, we do mean to have our right as Christians," and that when we are asked to fellowship "liberal Christianity" as scriptural and sufficient for man, "we must resolutely say, No."

Some other points which the Register has brought forward, we intended to notice in this article, but our space will not permit.

### HOME MISSIONS.

Leading politicians of all parties maintain, that the prosperity, and even the salvation of our country, depends on the issue of an election; men of all grades and occupations in society are disposed to believe, that on the line of policy adopted by our rulers, turn the momentous questions of the continued union of the states, and the preservation of a benevolent and republican government. Hence the lavish expenditure of time, money, talent, wealth, and moral principle even, we fear, for securing the desired result of a great political struggle. As to the expediency, or the moral propriety of the course of conduct dictated by such views, we are not so anxious either to affirm or deny. That there is a consistency between the avowed principles and the measures pursued by our fellow citizens, to the extent demanded by the exigencies of the cause!

*A Pleasing Thought.*—On an average, 3446 Bibles or Testaments were sent forth on their errands of love, every day of the last year, by the united efforts of the "British and Foreign," and "American" Bible Societies. Blessed be God, that free course is thus given to that Word by which men are made wise unto salvation. Quickly may it "light on every man" who might differ from us in opinion. His whole address was learned, dignified, and highly conservative. Adjourned at a quarter past twelve.

3:12 o'clock, P. M.—Dr. Beecher said, in the

WESLEYAN METHODISTS.

The Methodists, assuming the name of Wesleyans, are distinguished from the Episcopal Methodists, in that they admit laymen as members of their annual and general conferences, while the Episcopal Methodists entirely exclude them. The Wesleyans permit their people to have a voice in the election of their ministers, while the Episcopal Methodists leave the whole business of the appointment of ministers, with the bishop.

A general conference of the Wesleyans has been recently held at Cincinnati, composed of clerical and lay delegates from the annual conferences. They require all the members to adopt the principles of anti-slavery, and total abstinence from the use, and traffic in alcohol. They are about establishing a book concern and a paper devoted to their cause in New York. There are at present six conferences in this connection, and about 15,000 members, with not far from 500 stations and itinerant preachers. This secession from the Methodist Episcopal church is a serious one, and is annually extending. May it result in the universal recognition of the Scriptural principles of church order adopted by the Wesleyans.

### MR. GRAHAM'S TRIAL.

We have already given in part the remarks made on the occasion of Rev. Mr. Graham's trial before the Cincinnati synod. He stood accused, as our readers know, of heresy, for teaching that slavery is supported by the Bible. We now give, from the Christian Politician, another chapter of the observations called forth by important trial.

Mr. Goodman thought this the most important case he had ever had any experience in. The doctrine of the pamphlet is entirely contrary to the teachings of God's word.

The property in man is the root of all the abominations of slavery. And the tendency of the doctrine of the pamphlet is to propagate infidelity. And his case ought to be decided upon the principles of the Bible. He would not concur in the idea that the Presbyterians book is to exclude a final reference to the Bible.

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The conference was made up by individuals from a great number of places, at great distances from each other, full of love and holy animation. Truth is spreading in all directions in Canada. The way is fast preparing for its triumph over the superstitions and cruelties that have so long and fearfully prevailed; and blessed are all those who shall labor hard to hasten the day when Romanism shall yield to the overwhelming power of the truth and God!

**TAT.**—The Auxiliary Bible Society of Montgomery, Fulton and Hamilton Co., N. Y., resolved at a late special meeting to tax to raise \$3000, or the one hundredth part of the \$300,000 needed by the American Bible Society, the current year. No doubt of success if they try in the right spirit; and success gained in such a spirit will not interfere with the equally pressing claims of kindred objects.

**INQUISITION UNFOLDED.**—Rev. Mr. Fairchild has just issued a pamphlet, entitled "Inquiry Unfolded," in which he aims to expose the absurdity which he has received from the enemies of South Boston and others. No one will question Mr. F.'s right to make a book in his own defense, or to do whatever else he can to vindicate his character, and remove the load of reproach under which he is suffering. Probably no man, under trials similar to his, ever shone more largely in the public sympathy, and there were very few who would not heartily rejoice could he be proved innocent. Whether his pamphlet will prove him so, we cannot say. It contains some bold and surprising statements, the truth of which we have not the means of testing. He intimates his intention to submit himself to a legal trial, a measure to which his friends have often advised him and which, if anything can do it, will secure a judgment in his favor. It is but just that he should have the public ear, and every other facility which can be afforded him for making his defense.

**INSTALLATION.**—Rev. James E. Cushing was installed pastor of the First Church in Waltham, Oct. 20th instant. Invocation and reading the scriptures by Rev. Mr. Gilberth, Kennebunkport, Me.; sermon by Rev. Mr. Kirk, of this city; installing prayer by Rev. Mr. Allen, South Berwick, Me.; charge to the pastor by Rev. Mr. Marsh, West Roxbury; right hand of fellowship by Rev. Mr. Cushing, Kennebunkport, Me.; address to the church and assembly, by Rev. Mr. Lord, Biddeford, Me.; concluding prayer by Rev. Mr. Ashby, York, Me., conducted by the pastor.

**A CHURCH ORGANIZED.**—The Second Evangelical Church in Lancaster, was constituted Thursday, the 18th inst. The council convened on this occasion was organized by choice of Rev. Geo. Fisher of Harvard, moderator, and Rev. O. G. Hubbard of Leominster, scribe.

**More Colliery Explosions.**—Another explosion of fire damp has occurred at Walsall, in a colliery at the end of a board. The board had been carried forward to a dyke, or trouble, the station of which was at the head of the dyke, and such was made by excavating the rock, to reach and continue the seam of coal. The underlayer going in with a candle, the gas fired, and he and another party were severely burnt, but no other injury took place. Another accident had occurred at Fleetwood, and, including the colliery, are almost 1000 persons, hence, though so far as fatality as at Haswell, a basis more favorable to commerce.

**General Return of Dr. Wolff.**—Constantinople, Oct. 17, 1844. I am happy to be enabled to state, on the best authority, that advices have been received of the arrival of Dr. Wolff at Mora, on his way to Teheran. Having thus crossed the frontier of Bohemia, his personal safety has been insured, and he will be safe in the hands of the Turks, and in the immediate vicinity of the "Lancaster Mills." The cause of evangelical religion evidently called for the organization of this church, and though the church in the centre of the town is much affected by the loss of a large and important part of its members, yet he cheerfully advised to the step which has been taken. This church of Christ has been planted in prayer, and may she ever possess and exhibit such a character that it may be said of her, "Who is she that looketh forth as the morning, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners?"

**Rev. Milton C. Branson of North Danvers, is appointed to preach before Theological Society at Dartmouth College, at their anniversary in July next. In case of his failure, Rev. Professor Bush is the substitute.**

**Mr. TORKEY was to have his trial at Baltimore on Tuesday of the present week. It has been brought on at a much earlier day than was anticipated, and his friends are very apprehensive that he will be condemned to the penitentiary.**

## The Editors' Table.

**THE PHILOSOPHY OF RHETORIC.**—By George Campbell, D. D., F. R. S. Edin., principal of the Marischal college, Aberdeen. A new edition, with the author's last additions and corrections. Price, \$1.50. Harper & Brothers, New York. Also by Crocker & Brewster, 47 Washington street.

**The above is a work of 435 pages, and treats of the nature and foundations of eloquence; the foundations and essential properties of eloquence; and the distinguishing properties of eloquence. It is an elaborate treatise, and bears evidence on every page of being from the hand of a master. It will be of use to teachers of elocution and to public speakers, who wish to understand "the radical principles of that art, whose object it is, by the use of language, to operate on the soul of the hearer, in the way of informing, convincing, pleasing, moving, or arousing."**

**THE TAMED AND THE UNTAMED, and other stories, by the author of *Willie Waggoner*.** Boston: Samuel G. Simpkins, Tremont Row.

"The other stories," are "Miles and Miles," "Foolish money," "Spending money," "Augusta and Paule," and "The Slave." These stories are well told, and with due regard to their moral effect.

**THE WORKS OF CHARLOTTE EBENEZER.**—Charles Tappan, 114 Washington street, has for sale the works of Charlotte Elizabeth, in eight handsomely bound volumes. The titles of the several volumes are.—Personal recollections; Judah's lion; Floral biography; Letters from Ireland; Principalties and powers; Helen Fleetwood; Siege of Derry; Wrongs of Women. We have before spoken so fully of these works, and so much have they been read and commended, that nothing further in the way of explanation or analysis seems now to be required. As we desire the extension of the truth, and a prevailing sympathy for the poor, as ignorant, and the suffering of our race, we desire an extensive circulation of the writings of Charlotte Elizabeth.

**FRANCE.**—France is taking steps towards the emancipation of the slaves abroad. The slaves of the island of Bourbon, in opening the session of the Colonial Council,

**A HISTORY OF GREECE.**—The first No. of Thirlwall's History of Greece has been published by the Harper, and is for sale in this city by Crocker & Brewster, 47 Washington street.

Cooperatives are made that the English have seized the north point of Prince Island, a site which belongs to the Portuguese, under the pretence of establishing a fort. It is assumed that the real object is to bring Greece in case of a collision with the French.

The Major General of the navy at Rochefort, had issued an order, forbidding the officers of the navy from wearing monocles and long beards.

**FRANCE AFRICA.**—*Algiers.*—There has been a friendly engagement between the French and a tribe of Arabs, near Dally. The tribe of that quarter had been guilty of depredations. General Conrad had traversed the country near Dally, determined to chastise them. On the 17th ult. he met a large number of Kabyles, when, finding their numbers increasing, he turned and fled. The Kabyles pursued him, and were in the habit of walking, playing at quoits, and otherwise amusing themselves. On the 15th of July, the Chouans endeavored to force themselves into the garden, but were repelled.

Upon the 17th, they took brickbats and stones to repel the attack. They were repelled, and the market is glutted with all kinds of American produce. Coffees very high and scarce, and the new crop comes in slowly. Very sickly among the shipping.—Is.

**LITTLELL'S LIVING AGE.**—No. 28 is for sale by the agents, T. H. Carter & Co., 118-12 Washington street. The Earl of Chatham, by Macaulay, and Stanley's life of Dr. Arnold, are the leading articles, and are worth much more than the price of the No.—\$0.30 is just received. See contents in another column.

**THE EDUCATOR.**—Review for October, American edition, is for sale by Jordan, Swift & Co., 121 Washington street. Recent developments of Puseyism, Sir Francis Drake, Protection from lightning, Results of rotary, are leading and valuable articles; but that of the Earl of Chatham, by Macaulay, is of special interest, as the writings of that distinguished critic is always.

**COLLUMBO'S GAZETTE,** No. 20, is for sale by Crocker & Brewster, 47 Washington street.

## Foreign.

**ARRIVAL OF THE BRITANNIA.**—SEVENTEEN DAYS LATER FROM EUROPE.

The steamer Britannia, arrived this port on Friday morning, in seventeen days from Liverpool.

**THE ANTI-CORN LAW LEAGUE.**—The Anti-Corn Law League commenced their winter campaign by holding a public meeting at Manchester on the 21st ult. The attendance was very large, the meeting being opened by a speech from the president, and followed by a discussion of the affairs of the League, in which the casualties of the Arabs are estimated at 326 killed and 550 wounded, and that those of the French at 200 and 150 wounded.

**SWITZERLAND.**—The Zurich Gazette announces that on the 24th ult., after a discussion which lasted from 8 o'clock in the morning till 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the Great Council of Zurich voted to renew the League, and to confide to the League the education of the youth of the Canton. This grave resolution was adopted by a majority of 70 votes to 24.

**PORTUGAL.**—*Lisbon.*—The Committee appointed to inquire into the conduct of Government during the late troubles have made a favorable report, and recommended a bill of indemnity, which was adopted by the Cortes on the 21st ult. The bill provides for the payment of 1000 reis per man, instead of 100, which it now pays; gold, 10,000 reis instead of 1000.

On the debate of the Chamber of Deputies on the measures of the Government during the suspension of the Constitution, Ministers had a majority of 45, in a house of 100 members. The Ministry is therefore secure, its Algerine act will be held over by the Cortes.

**Great Britain.**—Steamship.—This vessel is at length released from the British port authorities, and is now ready to sail for Peru, having been made, she was removed from her moorings, on the sea banks, and proceeded majestically down the floating harbor to the entrance of the lock, and was brought safely through the lock to the river Amazon, where she will remain for a day or two, to have the screw affixed. She is then intended that she shall make one or two trial trips, after which she will proceed to London.

**Morocco.**—Opening of the Chambers.—King Louis opened the new session of Parliament on the 21st ult. after a speech by the King, in which he addressed the members of the House of Commons, and the members of the House of Peers, both of whom were present.

**TURKEY.**—*Constantinople.*—The late destructive fire at Saratoga Springs.

BY AN EXTRACT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE SARATOGA REPUBLICAN. We learn that between 2 and 3 o'clock on Friday last, a fire broke out in a building situated on the corner of State and Main streets, which was entirely consumed, together with five other buildings, embracing altogether 14 tenements. The aggregate loss is estimated at \$15,000, a part of which was covered by insurance.

**Death.**—*Deaths.*—Deaths.

**DEATH IN DICKINSON COLLEGE.**—A fire broke out in the Western building of Dickinson College, (Carlisle, Penn.) Tuesday noon last; when it was discovered it was spreading rapidly over the roof. It was stopped in time to prevent any serious loss except in the burning or some valuable articles in the Museum, under the charge of Prof. Durbin, in Europe.—N. Y. Tribune.

**DIASTROUS FIRE AT SARATOGA SPRINGS.**—By an extract from the office of the Saratoga Republican. We learn that between 2 and 3 o'clock on Friday last, a fire broke out in a building situated on the corner of State and Main streets, which was entirely consumed, together with five other buildings, embracing altogether 14 tenements. The aggregate loss is estimated at \$15,000, a part of which was covered by insurance.

**Death.**—*Deaths.*—Deaths.

**DEATH IN WILMINGTON.**—H. H. Morris, 162 years old, died Saturday morning.

**In Wolfington.**—*N. H.* Mr. Simeon Stevens, a Revolutionary pensioner, about 80.

**Death.**—*Deaths.*—Deaths.

**DEATH IN WILMINGTON.**—W. H. Thompson, 85, a Frenchman by birth and came to our country with Count de Beaumont, to fight in the battle of Waterloo.

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